

Message Text

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46

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SAM-01 SAJ-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OMB-01 AID-20 PC-04

NIC-01 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-14 DRC-01 /194 W

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4149

INFO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONGEN LUANDA

AMCONGEN LOURENCO MARQUES

UNCLAS USUN 1856

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, UN, PO, MZ, PU, AO

SUBJ: UN SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENT ON PORTUGUESE
TERRITORIES

REF: USUN 1804 (NOTAL)

1 UN/OPI PRESS SPOKESMAN READ OUT FOLLOWING STATEMENT BY
SECRETARY GENERAL AT NOON BRIEFING, MAY 17:

"I HAVE FOLLOWED WITH CLOSE ATTENTION THE RECENT CHANGES
WHICH HAVE OCCURRED IN PORTUGAL AND WHICH HAVE RESULTED IN THE
FORMATION OF A NEW GOVERNMENT UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF HIS
EXCELLENCY GENERAL ANTONIONDE SPINOLA.

"PRIOR TO THE FORMATION OF THE GOVERNMENT, THE PRESENT
LEADERS OF PORTUGAL HAD REPORTEDLY INDICATED THEIR INTENTION
OF SEEKING WAYS AND MEANS OF PUTTING AN END TO THE BITTER

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CONFLICTS IN THE AFRICAN TERRITORIES WHICH, FOR NEARLY
FOURTEEN YEARS, HAVE BROUGHT SO MUCH BLOODSHED, SUFFERING

AND HARDSHIP TO ALL THOSE INVOLVED AND ESPECIALLY TO THE CIVILIAN IN HABITANTS OF THE TERRITORIES CONCERNED.

"IT IS MY FIRM BELIEF THAT THE RELEVANT RESOLUTIONS OF THE UNITED NATIONS PROVIDE THE ONLY BASIS FOR A PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF THOSE TRAGIC CONFLICTS, A SOLUTION WHICH IS VITAL TO THE INTERESTS NOT ONLY OF AFRICA BUT OF PORTUGAL ITSELF. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT, BEARING IN MIND THESE RESOLUTIONS, THE NEW GOVERNMENT OF PORTUGAL WILL RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF THE PEOPLES IN THE TERRITORIES TO SELF-DETERMINATION AND INDEPENDENCE AND THAT IT WILL FOR THIS PURPOSE BEGIN NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE AFRICAN LIBERATION MOVEMENTS CONCERNED WITHOUT DELAY SO THAT PEACE MAY BE RESTORED.

"OF COURSE, I AM QUITE PREPARED TO PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE THAT MAY BE REQUIRED WITH RESPECT TO THE NEGOTIATIONS, AND INDEED, IT HAVE BEEN REQUESTED TO DO SO BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN ITS RESOLUTION
2918 (XXVII)."

2. ACCORDING TO OPI SPOKESMAN, SECRETARY GENERAL DOES NOT PLAN TO TRAVEL TO LISBON AT THIS TIME. PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT WAS INFORMED OF SECRETARY GENERAL'S STATEMENT MAY 17 THROUGH THEIR MISSION TO UN. SPOKESMAN NOTED THAT A WEEK AGO, WALDHEIM HAD MET WITH SECRETARY GENERAL (JANACEK) OF SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL, WHO CONVEYED WALDHEIM'S VIEWS TO GENERAL DE SPINOLA IN LISBON. SPOKESMAN OBSERVED THAT WALDHEIM HAD INFORMED JANACEK OF UN POSITION TOWARD PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES, AND APPROPRIATE GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTIONS. SPOKESMAN CONCLUDED SAYING, "SECRETARY GENERAL IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE ANY ASSISTANCE REQUIRED IF NEGOTIATIONS TAKE PLACE BETWEEN PARTIES CONCERNED."
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